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Docket-222

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

10 MAY 1993  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

MAY 13 1993

7330-7/1700A3

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Rick Santorum  
House of Representatives  
1222 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Santorum:

This is in reply to your letter of April 20, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, John Sokol of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals, plus a discussion paper released March 1, 1993. In sum, these rules would create more channels for public safety use than any previous action by the Commission, without requiring replacement of radio systems. With regard to radio call boxes, they were not specifically addressed in the

Honorable Rick Santorum

2.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

15/

Edward R. Jacobs  
Deputy Chief, Land Mobile and  
and Microwave Division

Enclosures

cc:

Chief, LM&M Divison

Chief, PR Bureau

Docket Files, Room 222

P&P Branch (Chron) File

CNTL NO - 9301842

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CONGRESS/9301842

# Congressional

DUE: 5-6-93

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## CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 04/27/93

### LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9301842	04/27/93	04/20/93	05/17/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Rick Santorum	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
John Sokol	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/lm			
U-7.9			

RICK SANTORUM  
18TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS  
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON HUMAN RESOURCES  
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
OVERSIGHT

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3818**

April 20, 1993

*PRB*  
*92-235*  
DISTRICT OFFICES:  
606 WEYMAN ROAD  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15236  
(412) 882-3205

541 FIFTH AVENUE  
MCKEESPORT, PA 15132  
(412) 864-4049

640 RODI ROAD  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235  
(412) 882-3205

Mr. Ralph Haller  
Chief, Private Radio Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Haller:

Recently, I was contacted by John Sokol, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, regarding PR Docket Number 92-235 (Part 88). Mr. Sokol asked that I convey to you their concerns regarding Part 88. A copy of their letter is enclosed for your review.

In particular, Mr. Sokol requests that the final FCC reassignment plan take into account the essential public safety role of radio call boxes located along highways. This communications network provides turnpike drivers with access to emergency services; and, as Mr. Sokol points out, the system averages approximately 1200 calls each month.

Additionally, I would like to emphasize the impact that Part 88 will have on municipal public safety agencies across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As a result of the FCC plan, local providers of police and fire protection will likely find it necessary to completely replace expensive communications equipment. While the need to reassign the radio spectrum is clear, I hope that the final FCC plan will take into account the limited fiscal resources of many local municipalities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Rick Santorum  
Member of Congress

RS:df  
enclosure



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG 17105

JOHN L. SOKOL, JR., P.E.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 7, 1993

The Honorable Rick Santorum  
United States House of Representatives  
1222 Longworth House Office Building  
Independence and New Jersey Avenues, SE  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Santorum:

In order to establish more efficient use of the radio spectrum, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is proposing extensive reassignment of radio frequencies, known as PR Docket Number 92-235. The proposed completion of this reassignment is the year 2004. The implementation of this docket will most likely require the replacement of all mobile, portable, base and repeater radios currently in operation in Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission vehicles and facilities. This equipment provides your constituents with vital public safety services.

While the need for more efficient use of the radio spectrum is wholeheartedly recognized, your assistance in emphasizing several important issues is requested. Although an implementation date has been established, the technology is not yet available. Public safety entities will be forced to bear the significant cost and effort of implementation while others benefit. A thoughtful cost-controlled migration policy must be established.

Also, radio call boxes, which we operate along every mile of the PA Turnpike, are neither addressed nor protected under the FCC plan. Serious interference problems from commercial paging services are not being rectified. Averaging approximately 1200 calls each month, this system provides our patrons with immediate access to emergency services, which could make the difference in a life or death situation.

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FCC Letter  
PR Docket Number 92-235

Because of the far-reaching effects on the safety of our